

Agency Activity Inventory by Agency

Appropriation Period: 2003-05 Activity Version: 2004 Sup w/ Alloc & Activities

Agency: 461 - Department of Ecology

Adjudicate Water Rights

Adjudicating water rights brings certainty to water rights and is fundamental to sound water management and reducing conflicts over water. It is a judicial determination of existing water rights and water right claims, including federal, tribal, and non-tribal claims, to determine their validity and extent. The primary activity is supporting the Yakima River Basin adjudication. (Authorizing law - RCW 90.03.110)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Harvest the value of the state's natural resources

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,369,000	\$1,369,000	\$0	11.4	\$1,546,000	\$1,546,000	\$0	13.5

Expected Results:

RESULT: Near completion of the Yakima Basin Adjudication in 2005 will remove major uncertainty regarding the validity and extent of the water rights in the Basin.

- 95 percent completion of the Yakima River Basin Adjudication.

Administration

Administration supports agency functions by providing leadership, cross-program support, and staff presence throughout the state. Administration manages the agency's long-term financial health and provides information to support sound decision-making and resource management by managers. Communication, education, and outreach tools and play a major role in protecting and improving the environment.

Administration staff serve as liaisons to Congress, the state Legislature, local governments, businesses, Indian tribes, and environmental and citizen groups. Administration helps managers and employees create a safe, supportive, and diverse work environment by providing comprehensive human resource services. It also oversees information management (desktop and network services, application development, and data administration) and facility and vehicle management, and maintains the agency's centralized records and library resources, responds to public-records requests, and provides mail services.

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Preserve and restore natural systems and the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$19,570,000	\$5,336,000	\$14,234,000	229.2	\$19,667,000	\$5,417,000	\$14,250,000	235.0

Expected Results:

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RESULTS:

- Agency managers, the Governor, the State Auditor, OFM, and the Legislature have confidence in Ecology's financial information and can use it to make decisions affecting the environment.
 - The public is educated about Ecology's work and role in environmental protection and understands the policies the agency is developing and the opportunities available to influence Ecology's decisions.
 - Washington's environmental laws and rules are improved through Ecology's relationships with legislators, local governments, businesses, Indian tribes, and environmental and citizen groups.
 - Ecology managers and supervisors possess the highest-quality communication, performance management, hiring, and leadership skills.
 - The Ecology work environment reflects the diversity of the community Ecology serves. Agency staff receives reliable, secure, and high-quality desktop support and network services.
 - Customers have easy access to information.
 - Facilities and vehicles are well-maintained, safe and efficient.
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Assess, Set, and Achieve Instream Flows

The agency evaluates and sets instream flows which is fundamental to water resources management. It is used to determine how much water needs to remain in streams to meet environmental needs, how much water can be allocated, and when to regulate water use based on flow levels. This includes acquiring water and other management techniques to restore and protect flows while meeting out-of-stream needs. This activity receives Bonneville Power and Salmon Recovery Funds (and related staff) that are not reflected in the appropriated budget totals noted. (Authorizing law - RCW 90.22)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Obtain data on which to make better decisions

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$978,000	\$698,000	\$280,000	8.1	\$1,288,000	\$1,025,000	\$263,000	10.6

Expected Results:

RESULT: Increased setting of instream flows in critical water basins and achievement of the flows to benefit people, fish, farming and the environment.

- Set six instream flows in the 2003-05 Biennium, working with local watershed groups and critical basins not engaged in watershed planning.
 - Acquire 10,000 acre feet of water to achieve instream flow requirements.
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Clean the Worst Contaminated Sites First (Aquatic)

The agency protects public health and natural resources by cleaning up and managing contaminated sediments in the aquatic environment. This includes addressing the environmental health of aquatic sediments in source control permits, managing sediment standards and regulations, and maintaining a sediment information database. The agency also manages multi-agency sediment cleanup projects. The cleanup of contaminated aquatic sediments reduces toxic contamination in food fish and protects the aquatic environment. (Authorizing laws - Model Toxics Control Act – RCW 70.105D; Water Pollution Control Act – RCW 90.48; Puget Sound Water Quality Protection – RCW 90.71)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

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FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,626,000	\$0	\$1,626,000	17.0	\$1,624,000	\$0	\$1,624,000	17.0

Expected Results:

RESULT: The most highly contaminated marine sediments are cleaned up and managed to minimize public health and environmental impacts.

- Increase the number of acres remediated (cleaned up and managed) by 80 over the biennium.
- Increase sediment acreage evaluated for source control, cleanup, or constructive purposes.

Clean the Worst Contaminated Sites First (Uplands)

The agency protects public health and natural resources by cleaning up and managing contaminated sites. Resources are first focused on cleaning up contaminated sites that pose the greatest risk to public health and the environment. These include sites where contamination threatens drinking water, exists in a large quantity, is very toxic, may affect a water body, or may affect people that are living, working, or recreating near the site. Contamination may be in the soil, sediments, underground water, air, drinking water, and/or surface water. The cleanup of these sites protects public health, safeguards the environment, and promotes local economic development by making land available for new industries and other beneficial uses. (Authorizing laws - Model Toxics Control Act – RCW 70.105D; Water Pollution Control Act – RCW 90.48; Puget Sound Water Quality Protection – RCW 90.71)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$10,199,000	\$0	\$10,199,000	83.4	\$9,990,000	\$0	\$9,990,000	83.4

Expected Results:

RESULT: The most highly contaminated sites are cleaned up, public and environmental health is protected, and sites are ready for redevelopment and job creation.

- Increase the number of sites cleaned up by 3 percent annually.
- Increase the number of sites with cleanup actions in progress.
- Decrease the number of sites that are awaiting cleanup.

Clean Up Polluted Waters

The federal Clean Water Act requires the agency to develop water quality standards and to identify water bodies that fail to meet those standards. The agency does this by reviewing thousands of water quality data samples and publishing an integrated water quality assessment report listing the water bodies that do not meet standards. The agency then works with local interests to prepare clean-up plans to reduce the pollution, establish conditions in discharge permits and nonpoint-source management plans, and monitor the effectiveness of the clean-up plan. (Authorizing Laws - Federal Clean Water Act, State Water Pollution Control Act, State Dairy Nutrient Management Act, State Forest Practices Act, State Water Resources Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

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FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$3,099,000	\$716,000	\$2,383,000	33.8	\$3,098,000	\$800,000	\$2,298,000	34.8

Expected Results:

RESULT: Implementation of water quality clean-up plans to protect public health and the environment.

- Manage 1,500 contaminated water body segments on 650 water bodies (Washington's legal commitments specified in a Memorandum of Agreement prompted by a lawsuit).
- Submit 60 water clean-up plans and associated technical reports per year to the Environmental Protection Agency.
- Assist local communities in implementing water clean-up plans. Specific examples of working with local communities include eliminate the number of Nooksack River tributaries that exceed healthy bacteria levels; reduce bacteria by 10 percent per year in Lower Yakima River irrigation ditches; reduce sediment in the lower Yakima River by 60 percent; reduce bacteria by 10 percent in Upper Allen Creek; and reduce bacteria by 15 percent in Alpowa, Deadman, and Pataha Creeks.
- Develop an updated list of water bodies failing to meet water quality standards (303d list).
- Assist local communities and businesses in implementing the newly revised water quality standards regulation by developing "Use Attainability" and other guidance documents.

Conduct Environmental Studies for Pollution Source Identification and Control

The agency conducts pollution studies to address known or suspected problems at individual sites or across regional areas. These studies support agency efforts under the federal Clean Water Act, Water Pollution Control Act, and Model Toxics Control Act. The directed studies range from water quality sampling, such as for bacteria or dissolved oxygen, to more complex analyses for toxic chemicals, such as dioxins in fish tissues or pesticides in groundwater. Many of the studies are water clean-up studies, which calculate the "total maximum daily load" (TMDL) of a pollutant a water body can absorb without causing violations of water quality standards. As part of a lawsuit settlement, the agency entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency that requires the agency to develop nearly 1,500 TMDLs by 2013. Study results are published in scientific reports used for regulatory decision making, policy development, and environmental health protection.

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Obtain data on which to make better decisions

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$3,367,000	\$682,000	\$2,685,000	35.2	\$3,369,000	\$668,000	\$2,701,000	35.2

Expected Results:

RESULT: Comprehensive scientific studies are conducted to assess pollution sources and environmental health.

- 100 percent of study reports are peer-reviewed, completed on schedule, and posted to the Internet.
- Resource managers have credible scientific studies to inform policy decisions on pollution controls needed to protect environmental and public health.

Control Stormwater Pollution

The agency prepares tools, provides assistance, and offers compliance strategies to control the quantity and quality of stormwater runoff from development and industrial activities. The agency is currently providing training and assistance to communities and industries for the Western Washington Stormwater Manual and is actively developing an Eastern Washington Stormwater Manual. The agency is also working with local governments and other stakeholders to develop a municipal stormwater program and permitting system. (Authorizing Laws - Federal Clean Water Act, State Water Pollution Control Act)

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Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Preserve and restore natural systems and the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$2,598,000	\$352,000	\$2,246,000	27.1	\$2,970,000	\$318,000	\$2,652,000	31.9

Expected Results:

RESULT: Reduction in the contamination of streams, rivers, estuaries, lakes, and groundwater from the runoff of stormwater from roads and other impervious surfaces.

- Administer the stormwater program for the state's 2,000 construction and industrial stormwater dischargers that require permits.
- Provide responses to new permit applicants within 45 days of receiving an application.
- Issue the municipal Phase 1 and Phase 2 permits using stakeholder advisory groups, which will assist nearly 100 jurisdictions with two-thirds of the state's population.
- Develop and maintain stormwater manuals for both Eastern and Western Washington to identify best management practices.
- Provide web-based information and support for low- and zero-impact development.

Eliminating Wastes and Managing the Garbage that is Left Over

Waste reduction and recycling conserves resources and saves money in both the public and private sectors. The agency is working on revisions to the state plan to provide a 20-year vision for solid waste; technical assistance on pollution prevention strategies; assistance in establishing and operating local recycling programs; better management of building materials (new and waste); and development of an organic wastes strategy. (Authorizing laws - Waste Not Washington Act, Waste Reduction, Recycling, and Litter Control Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$3,743,000	\$0	\$3,743,000	46.5	\$3,773,000	\$59,000	\$3,714,000	47.5

Expected Results:

RESULT: Solid waste generation per capita decreases, saving businesses and people money, and saving resources for future generations.

- Develop a long-term strategic plan, including strategic partnerships with business and government, to reduce solid waste and leverage resources.
- Increase reuse of construction and demolition materials, organic matter, compost, and sludge to save resources and decrease amount of material going to landfills.
- Reduce generation and use of toxic materials by citizens and industries.
- Moderate risk waste is appropriately managed and properly disposed of to protect the environment.
- Increase awareness of the overall impacts of solid waste on public health and the environment.

Employing Washington Students to Prevent and Pick Up Litter

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Litter control efforts include a litter prevention campaign, Ecology Youth Corps litter pick up crews, and coordination with other state and local efforts to maximize litter pick-up. In the 2003-05 Biennium, the agency will look at ways to outsource much of the staff devoted to this activity, while retaining the effectiveness of the program. Litter prevention and pickup helps to "keep Washington green," supports tourism and provides employment opportunities to youth. (Authorizing laws - Waste Reduction, Recycling, and Litter Control Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Preserve and restore natural systems and the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$4,684,000	\$0	\$4,684,000	21.1	\$4,715,000	\$0	\$4,715,000	9.2

Expected Results:

RESULT: Roads are cleaner, as indicated by a Road Cleanliness Indicator, through prevention campaigns and litter being picked up in a timely manner.

- Pick up, with local partners, 7,000 tons of litter.
- Employ 800 youths in litter pick-up.
- Receive and respond to 20,000 litter hotline calls.
- Increase litter citations by 10 percent.
- Conduct a litter survey.
- Provide \$1.5 million in grants to local governments to clean up litter and illegal dumps.
- With our partners, pick up litter on over 9,000 miles of roads annually.

Ensure Dam Safety

This activity protects life, property, and the environment by overseeing the safety of Washington's dams. This includes inspecting the structural integrity and flood and earthquake safety of existing state dams not managed by the federal government, approving and inspecting new dam construction and repairs, and taking compliance and emergency actions. (Authorizing law - RCW 90.03.350)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the safety of people and property

Category: Prevent accidents and prepare for emergencies

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$830,000	\$623,000	\$207,000	7.2	\$1,097,000	\$894,000	\$203,000	8.4

Expected Results:

RESULT: Reduce the risk of potentially catastrophic dam failures for the safety of people and property located below dams.

- Inspect 48 high hazard dams.
- Inspect 46 significant hazard dams.
- Inspect 20 low hazard dams.

Ensure Environmental Laboratories Provide Quality Data

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The agency is charged with the responsibility to certify laboratories that conduct tests or submit data to the agency. As a result, Ecology developed and manages a program to accredit environmental laboratories for analyses in all typical environmental matrices, now including drinking water. The drinking water mission was transferred to Ecology under an April 2002 Memorandum of Agreement between Ecology and the Department of Health. Accreditation helps ensure that environmental laboratories have the demonstrated capability to provide accurate and defensible data. The agency's lab accreditation program is the primary source of lab performance monitoring for the 480 labs in the accreditation program. (Authorizing laws - Chapters 43.21A.445 and 70.119A.080 RCW)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Obtain data on which to make better decisions

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$636,000	\$636,000	\$0	7.7	\$648,000	\$648,000	\$0	7.7

Expected Results:

RESULT: Environmental laboratories submitting data to the Departments of Ecology and Health have the demonstrated capability to provide accurate and defensible data.

- Evaluate and accredit over 480 environmental laboratories in 29 states and 3 provinces, including 92 drinking water laboratories.
- Ensure 100 percent acceptable performance testing analyses for major permitted wastewater discharge laboratories.
- Regulated laboratories maintain successful quality programs.
- Environmental labs and public health decisions are based on accurate and defensible scientific data.

Funding Local Efforts to Clean Up Toxic Sites and Manage or Reduce Waste

The agency supports local waste reduction, recycling, site cleanup, and litter pick-up activities through the administration of four capital grant programs, including Coordinated Prevention Grants (CPG), Remedial Action Grants, Public Participation Grants, and Litter Pickup Contracts. These grant programs allow the agency to leverage local efforts to get additional resources for high priority cleanups, waste management, and local planning. (Authorizing laws - Model Toxics Control Act, Waste Reduction, Recycling, and Litter Control Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,266,000	\$0	\$1,266,000	10.3	\$1,286,000	\$0	\$1,286,000	10.3

Expected Results:

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RESULT: Grant funding is provided to local governments for cleaning up contaminated waste sites for redevelopment and for local solid waste and recycling programs. Funding is also provided to citizens for public participation in the clean up of toxic waste sites.

- Provide and manage over \$95 million in grants to local governments, leveraging approximately \$42 million in local government resources.
- Provide technical assistance for about 160 agreements with about 400 projects.
- Collect over 25 million pounds of moderate risk waste each biennium for proper recycling or disposal at moderate risk waste collection facilities funded through Coordinated Prevention Grants.
- Manage grant funds to local jurisdictional health departments to ensure that approximately 350 solid waste facilities statewide are in compliance with regulatory standards.
- Provide and manage funding for toxic site clean ups, and the clean up of drinking water systems.
- Provide access and information to citizens about local cleanup activities.

Hanford Environmental Restoration

The agency protects public health and natural resources by working to restore the public use of air, soil, and water at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation by cleaning up contaminated sites from past activities. Radioactive and hazardous contaminants are removed, residual contaminants are contained and monitored, and mitigation of natural resource damage on Hanford occurs. (Primary authorizing rules and statutes - WAC 173-340 and RCW 70.105D and federal CERCLA 40 CFR 300)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$2,164,000	\$5,000	\$2,159,000	19.9	\$2,220,000	\$5,000	\$2,215,000	19.9

Expected Results:

RESULT: Public use of the air, soil and water at Hanford will be restored and human and environmental risks associated with past Hanford activities are removed or reduced.

- Remove and dispose of 500,000 tons of contaminated soil per year through 2011.
- Clean up 100 of 700 total waste sites by 2006.
- Remediate three sites that are high risk to groundwater by 2006.
- Complete clean-up of Hanford 200-area soil waste sites by 2024.
- By June 2005, develop a cost estimate to support construction of an improved groundwater remediation system that would begin in December 2005.

Hanford Facility Transition Project

The agency works on decommissioning the large, complex, and high-risk facilities throughout the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, including nuclear reactors and chemical processing facilities used for nuclear weapons material production. Transition of these facilities to safe and stable conditions requires coordination of multiple regulatory and technical requirements. Additionally, the project is responsible for regulatory oversight of three active operating facilities not on the Hanford Site. (Primary authorizing rules and statutes - WAC 173-303 and RCW 70.105)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

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FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$697,000	\$14,000	\$683,000	7.5	\$717,000	\$15,000	\$702,000	7.5

Expected Results:

RESULT: All major facilities on the Hanford Site will be decontaminated and decommissioned and either demolished or placed into a long-term safe storage configuration.

- Ensure U.S. Department of Energy's establishment of a schedule, including detailed planning, for disposition of surplus facilities in Hanford's 300 Area by September 2004.
- Complete repackaging of plutonium bearing mixed waste residues at the Hanford Plutonium Finishing Plant and place into safe storage by April 2004.
- Begin drainage of Off-Hanford Framatome liquid waste lagoons by September 2004 and close the lagoons by August 2006.
- Complete transition of the 105-D reactor to Interim Safe Storage by December 2004.
- Complete the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard mixed waste storage facility permit by September 2004.

Hanford Tank Waste Disposal Project

The agency protects public health and natural resources by providing regulatory oversight for the treatment and removal of highly radioactive tank waste at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation. This activity is focused on the design, permitting, construction, and operation of the Hanford Waste Treatment Plant. (Primary authorizing rules and statutes - WAC 173-303 and RCW 70.105)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,702,000	\$5,000	\$1,697,000	19.4	\$1,755,000	\$5,000	\$1,750,000	19.4

Expected Results:

RESULT: By 2028, 53 million gallons of high-level radioactive mixed waste from Hanford's interim storage tanks will be retrieved and treated. The Hanford Tank Waste Treatment Plant will be operating by January 2011.

- Continue on the critical path schedule (permit approvals are submitted and approved on time) for construction of the Waste Treatment.
- Complete permits for the construction of a treatment system for transuranic mixed tank waste by October 2004 and begin construction in late 2004.
- Ensure the permit for treatment of low-activity tank waste is in place by January 2005 and begin treatment in 2005.

Hanford Tank Waste Storage Project

The agency protects public health and natural resources by ensuring the safe storage and management of 53 million gallons of high-level radioactive tank waste at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation. The Hanford Tank Waste Project is focused on permitting the double-shelled tank waste storage system, removing liquid wastes from the single-shelled tanks, and beginning to close portions of the tank waste storage system. In coordination with the Hanford Tank Waste Disposal Project, the tank waste will be removed and treated, leading to eventual closure of all 177 Hanford tanks by 2028. (Primary authorizing rules and statutes - WAC 173-303 and RCW 70.105)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

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Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$988,000	\$5,000	\$983,000	11.3	\$1,019,000	\$5,000	\$1,014,000	11.3

Expected Results:

RESULT: Public health and environmental risk from the highly toxic, mixed radioactive and hazardous tank waste is reduced.

- Improve the safety of the double-shelled tanks holding the mixed tank waste through completion of the system permit by July 2006.
- Remove pumpable liquid waste from 29 single-shelled tanks with liquids remaining by September 2004.
- Complete the interim closure of seven single-shelled tanks by June 30, 2006.

Hanford Waste Management Project

The agency provides regulatory oversight for the safe storage, treatment, and disposal of liquid and solid dangerous and radioactive mixed wastes at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, as well as radioactive mixed-waste sites throughout the state. This activity regulates the management of this historic and ongoing waste stream and to assure the retrieval, treatment, and safe disposal of high-risk transuranic and high activity wastes currently buried in shallow unlined trenches. (Primary authorizing rules and statutes - WAC 173-303 and RCW 70.105)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,508,000	\$5,000	\$1,503,000	15.7	\$1,576,000	\$5,000	\$1,571,000	15.7

Expected Results:

RESULT: Treat and dispose 2.6 billion gallons of liquid waste and 35 million cubic feet of solid wastes by 2017 to significantly reduce the risks posed by the waste to Hanford workers and the environment.

- Groundwater and closure plans for Hanford's Low Level Burial Grounds developed by July 2004.
- Implement innovative waste disposal initiatives developed by the Hanford accelerated disposal workgroup.
- Increase the number of shipments of contract-handled transuranic waste to six or more per month.
- Complete the U.S. Ecology site investigation and determine required cleanup actions by June 2006.

Improve Community Access to Hazardous Waste Information/Quality Data

The agency uses automated data systems to track compliance and technical assistance visits; measure pollution prevention and compliance progress; track amounts of dangerous waste generated each year and its proper transport, treatment, and/or disposal; identify toxic chemicals released and stored by businesses; and track information on hundreds of facilities that prepare pollution prevention plans and pay fees. It provides the agency, the public, and local governments with accurate information about the type, location, and source of hazardous substances that affect them. In accordance with federal and state Community Right-to-Know laws, the agency also responds to public inquiries about toxic chemicals and provides a website for this purpose. (Authorizing laws - State Worker and Community Right-to-Know Act - RCW 49.70; Hazardous Substance Information Act - RCW 70.102; Hazardous Waste Fees - RCW 70.95E; Hazardous Waste Fee Regulations - WAC 173-305; Pollution Prevention Plans - WAC 173-307; Federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act)

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Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Obtain data on which to make better decisions

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$2,226,000	\$0	\$2,226,000	28.0	\$2,192,000	\$0	\$2,192,000	28.0

Expected Results:

RESULT: Hazardous waste data (waste type, location, volume, etc.) is readily available to emergency responders, local governments, citizens, and decision makers.

- Improve website and public access to hazardous waste information.
- Respond to over 9,500 phone calls for assistance annually (the 1-800 hazardous assistance hotline).
- Issue the "Shoptalk" newsletter to 25,000 businesses.
- Develop 40 new or revised publications for businesses annually.
- Assist the State Emergency Response Commission and local emergency planning committees with data on chemicals and hazardous substances.
- Collect and analyze 7,000 reports annually from businesses that generate and report on their hazardous waste.
- Provide guidance to agency staff and local governments on environmental justice issues.

Improve Quality of Data Used for Environmental Decision Making

Sound environmental policy and regulatory decisions can only be made if accurate and timely data are available to inform decisions. To ensure the reliability and integrity of data used by the agency, the quality assurance officer and staff provide guidance and training on developing Quality Assurance Project Plans, review project proposals, and consult on sampling design requirements and interpretation of results. This quality assurance function is required by the Environmental Protection Agency for entities such as the Department of Ecology, which receive funding for work involving environmental data. In addition, the agency scientists, modelers, statisticians, chemists, and other specialists interpret technical data, review grantee monitoring plans, and supply information for crucial policy questions, in support of agency mandates. Data collection supports all major state and federal environmental laws.

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Obtain data on which to make better decisions

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$416,000	\$151,000	\$265,000	4.1	\$521,000	\$256,000	\$265,000	5.1

Expected Results:

RESULT: Environmental decisions are made based upon accurate, reliable, and timely data.

- 100 percent of all environmental monitoring plans are peer-reviewed, completed before sampling begins, and posted to the Internet.
- Credible scientific data are collected to inform environmental policy decisions.
- Technical assistance is provided to four local grant recipients each quarter.
- Local government grant recipients provide high quality data to Ecology.

Increase Compliance and Take Action on Significant Environmental Threats from Hazardous Waste

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The agency annually conducts formal compliance enforcement inspections at large and medium quantity generators and at hazardous waste management facilities to ensure compliance with state and federal regulations. A credible, formal enforcement capability is essential to preserving the effectiveness of technical assistance and informal enforcement efforts. While staff undertakes formal enforcement infrequently, repeated refusal or inability of a facility to correct violations and come into compliance with the regulations will escalate to formal enforcement actions.

(Authorizing laws - State Hazardous Waste Management Act – RCW 70.105)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,609,000	\$0	\$1,609,000	20.0	\$1,609,000	\$0	\$1,609,000	20.0

Expected Results:

RESULT: Improved facility compliance in managing hazardous wastes for the protection of public health and the environment when other voluntary efforts fail.

- Improve compliance by an increase in the number of facilities that have few or no violations.
- Conduct 320 compliance inspections annually (including 15 treatment, storage, and disposal facilities; 17 recyclers; and 70 large quantity hazardous waste generators).
- Issue penalties and regulatory orders when necessary.
- Respond to approximately 180 complaints regarding hazardous wastes or substances.
- Investigate and respond to environmental crimes (illegal dumping, falsifying records, etc.).

Increase Safe Hazardous Waste Management Through Technical Assistance

Ecology provides education and technical assistance to thousands of businesses on safe hazardous waste management. Although formal enforcement work is essential to maintaining compliance with hazardous waste regulations, workshops and technical assistance visits can also help bring facilities into regulatory compliance using substantially fewer resources. Safe management of hazardous waste protects the public and the environment and enables the state to avoid significant clean-up costs. (Authorizing laws - State Hazardous Waste Management Act – RCW 70.105)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,720,000	\$0	\$1,720,000	22.0	\$1,720,000	\$0	\$1,720,000	22.0

Expected Results:

RESULT: Hazardous waste is safely managed, employees and the public are protected, and businesses are in compliance with state hazardous waste laws.

- Conduct 376 compliance technical assistance visits annually.
- Assist businesses with determining how to manage their wastes safely.
- Conduct annual workshops to explain regulatory requirements and best management practices.
- Adopt rules that provide the best environmental protection while being flexible to meet business needs.
- Increase the number of facilities that achieve and stay in compliance with regulatory requirements.
- Visit new businesses to help explain what hazardous waste requirements they need to meet.

Agency Activity Inventory

by Agency

Appropriation Period: 2003-05 Activity Version: 2004 Sup w/ Alloc & Activities

Agency: 461 - Department of Ecology

Manage Underground Storage Tanks to Minimize Releases

The agency currently regulates about 11,189 active tanks on 4,074 different properties, including gas stations, industries, commercial properties, and governmental entities. This includes working to ensure that tanks are installed, managed, and monitored in accordance with federal standards and in a manner that prevents releases into the environment. This is done through compliance inspections and providing technical assistance to tank owners and operators. Properly managing such tanks saves millions in cleanup costs and prevents contamination of limited drinking water and other groundwater resources. (Authorizing law – Underground Storage Tanks – RCW 90.76)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,515,000	\$0	\$1,515,000	16.0	\$1,481,000	\$0	\$1,481,000	17.0

Expected Results:

RESULT: Underground storage tanks are properly installed, monitored and/or decommissioned to minimize the release of oil, gas, and other toxic materials into drinking water and other underground water sources.

- Decrease the number of reported releases from underground storage tanks over time.
 - Increase the number of leaking underground storage sites that are cleaned up or considered "No Further Action" (numbers do not include leaking underground storage tanks with voluntary cleanup plans).
 - Increase the percentage of underground storage tanks inspected that pass operational compliance for leak detection.
-

Manage Water Rights

The agency allocates water by reviewing applications for new water rights and changes to existing water rights. Applications are reviewed to determine whether water is available and whether existing rights would be impaired as well as other considerations. The goal is to continue the increased pace of water rights processing as a result of increased funding and flexibility by the 2001 Legislature. It also includes work to implement new municipal water right provisions with the Department of Health and administering the current portfolio of existing water rights. (Authorizing law - RCW 90.03)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Harvest the value of the state's natural resources

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$5,516,000	\$4,023,000	\$1,493,000	60.5	\$5,728,000	\$4,443,000	\$1,285,000	64.1

Expected Results:

RESULT: Improved allocation of new water rights and changes to existing rights through sound and timely permit decision-making.

- 1,000 water right change permit decisions made in the 2003-05 Biennium.
 - 300 new water right permit decisions made in the 2003-05 Biennium.
 - Implement new municipal water right provisions with the Department of Health.
-

Measure Air Pollution Levels and Emissions to Make Sound Policy Decisions

Agency Activity Inventory

by Agency

Appropriation Period: 2003-05 Activity Version: 2004 Sup w/ Alloc & Activities

Agency: 461 - Department of Ecology

The agency needs reliable information on the amount and sources of pollution and how it moves in the air to make reasoned air quality management decisions. The agency uses three primary activities to collect needed data.

Air quality monitoring: The status of air quality is measured to provide data that allows assessment of trends, focused compliance, and assessment of control strategies, health effects, and environmental damage.

Emission inventory development: Emission inventory is the quantification of the amount of pollution released by sources of air pollution.

Meteorological and modeling forecasts: Meteorological forecasting and dispersion modeling are essential to understanding the movement and concentration of air pollutants, the carrying capacity of airsheds, the interactions of pollutants, and the point of maximum impact of pollution. (Authorizing Laws - Federal Clean Air Act RCW 70.94; Washington Clean Air Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Obtain data on which to make better decisions

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$2,552,000	\$2,221,000	\$331,000	25.0	\$2,552,000	\$2,221,000	\$331,000	25.0

Expected Results:

RESULT: Accurate and comprehensive air quality data is gathered, maintained, and evaluated over time to ensure informed policy decisions can be made.

- Conduct annual network review and modifications to meet air quality needs.
- No one is exposed to violations of standards.
- At least 85 percent of population lives where air pollution is routinely measured.
- Ensure adequate data in both quantity and quality are available to policy makers.
- Take leadership to establish regional consortium for air quality forecast modeling.
- Continually update and improve emissions data and modeling tools to predict air quality levels, impacts and trends.
- Participate in region-wide, trans-boundary efforts to characterize air quality patterns.
- Provide support of ambient air monitoring sites in cooperation with outside agencies.

Measure Contaminants in the Environment by Performing Laboratory Analyses

The Manchester Environmental Laboratory is a full-service environmental chemistry laboratory operated jointly by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Ecology. The laboratory provides technical, analytical, and sampling support for chemistry and microbiology for multiple programs in the agency and supports work conducted under mandates such as the federal Clean Water Act; Water Pollution Control Act; Puget Sound Water Quality Protection Act; and Model Toxics Control Act.

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Obtain data on which to make better decisions

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,299,000	\$619,000	\$680,000	26.3	\$1,334,000	\$654,000	\$680,000	26.3

Expected Results:

RESULT: Operation of a full-service environmental testing laboratory that provides defensible and accurate analytical and sampling support to the agency and other state and local governments.

- Maintain the goal of achieving 100 percent acceptable performance testing results.
- Provide scientifically sound data sampling results to clients as a basis for making environmental decisions.

Agency Activity Inventory

by Agency

Appropriation Period: 2003-05 Activity Version: 2004 Sup w/ Alloc & Activities

Agency: 461 - Department of Ecology

Monitor and Assess the Quality of State Waters and Measure Stream Flows Statewide

The agency has established a statewide environmental monitoring network to assess the current status of state waters, identify threatened or impaired waters, and evaluate changes/trends in water quality over time. This network includes sampling stations in rivers, streams, and marine waters (Puget Sound and coastal estuaries). The agency also measures and evaluates stream flows in salmon-critical basins and key watersheds statewide, and makes near real-time information available to the public via the agency's website.

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Obtain data on which to make better decisions

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$3,031,000	\$1,954,000	\$1,077,000	29.1	\$3,056,000	\$1,970,000	\$1,086,000	29.1

Expected Results:

RESULT: The health of freshwater rivers, streams, lakes, marine and estuarine water, and marine sediments are assessed statewide.

- Collect monthly samples from 82 freshwater and 35 marine water sites.
- Collect annual samples from 75 randomly-chosen, representative freshwater sites and 40 marine sites.
- Measure near real-time stream flows at 62 sites in critical salmon basins, and continuous flows at 75 other sites statewide.
- Provide real-time stream flow data to watershed and salmon managers via the agency's website.
- Alert regional office staff, the Department of Health, the Puget Sound Action Team, and the public to emerging water quality problems, trends, and fecal coliform contamination.
- Track and assess the effectiveness of water clean-up activities.

Partnering with the 31 Largest Industrial Facilities to Limit the Impact on Citizens/Environment

The agency provides a single point of contact for these major facilities. Rather than having multiple inspectors work on the many environmental issues at a plant, one engineer provides coverage for all media. This means more balanced regulation for these major industries, which include petroleum refineries, pulp and paper mills, and aluminum smelters.

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,814,000	\$108,000	\$1,706,000	19.2	\$1,733,000	\$108,000	\$1,625,000	19.2

Expected Results:

RESULT: Improved compliance with environmental standards at pulp and paper facilities, oil refineries, and aluminum smelters throughout the state.

- Provide one-stop environmental permitting, compliance, and technical assistance to three major industry sectors.
- Maintain a 90 percent rate of current permits.
- Plant permits comply with federal standards, which drive emissions down over time.
- Develop a strategy to simplify the restart of Washington's aluminum smelters.
- Permitted pollution levels continue to decline.

Agency Activity Inventory

by Agency

Appropriation Period: 2003-05 Activity Version: 2004 Sup w/ Alloc & Activities

Agency: 461 - Department of Ecology

Prepare and Respond to Drought and Climate Change

Agency staff provides services to mitigate the effects of droughts and to prepare for future droughts and climate change. This includes the provision of information and financial assistance and the coordination of drought response efforts. When droughts are declared, services include provision of water via emergency transfers, changes, and temporary wells. Emerging information on climate change is also monitored for future potential action. Funds indicated for Fiscal Year 05 include \$552,000 that can only be spent if a drought emergency is declared. (Authorizing law - RCW 43.83.B)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Preserve and restore natural systems and the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$315,000	\$0	\$315,000	0.4	\$624,000	\$0	\$624,000	0.4

Expected Results:

RESULT: Mitigation of drought effects through improved planning, communication, coordination, and loss prevention efforts.

- Increased number of temporary water right permits processed during periods of drought.

Prepare for Spill Response through Planning and Drills

Operators of large commercial vessels and oil handling facilities are required to maintain state-approved oil spill contingency plans. These plans help ensure that when major oil spills occur, the responsible party is able to rapidly mount an effective response. Once agency staff have reviewed and approved an oil spill contingency plan, the contingency plan "holders" and spill response contractors maintain their readiness through required spill drills. The agency also partners with the U.S. Coast Guard and Environmental Protection Agency to maintain a single, overarching policy that guides how spills are managed in the Northwest.

Staff works with other agencies and private sector spill response experts to develop geographic based response plans. The plans identify and rank response strategies that best protect natural resources, drinking-water supply intakes, marinas, sensitive archeological sites, and commercial shellfish beds. These plans work in concert with private sector contingency plans to enable spill cleanup contractors to immediately start response actions with minimal initial consultation. (Authorizing laws- RCW 90.56, 88.46 and 88.40)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$913,000	\$0	\$913,000	10.7	\$913,000	\$0	\$913,000	10.7

Expected Results:

RESULT: The agency and regulated community are fully prepared to promptly respond to and mitigate the impacts of oil spills.

- Enhance the capability of regional spill response teams.
- Approve oil spill contingency plans.
- Complete 60 percent of new internal DRILLTRAC training (spill responder training and certification program).
- Complete 100 percent of required oil spill drills to ensure all plan holders are able to mount effective actions in response to all oil spills to surface or ground water.
- Update the Northwest Area Plan (single plan among several agencies on how spills are managed).
- Develop one new inland Geographic Response Plan.

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by Agency

Appropriation Period: 2003-05 Activity Version: 2004 Sup w/ Alloc & Activities

Agency: 461 - Department of Ecology

Prevent Hazardous Waste Pollution Through Permitting, Closure, and Corrective Action

Facilities that treat, store, and/or dispose of dangerous wastes are required to obtain a permit to ensure that their design, construction, maintenance, and operating procedures protect public health and the environment. Washington currently has 15 active facilities that are either in "interim status" or have a final permit. These facilities are required to have closure plans to effectively deal with the end of their waste management activities. Environmental contamination found at any time before closure requires a corrective action clean-up plan. The agency is currently working on 27 high priority corrective action clean-up sites. (Authorizing laws - State Hazardous Waste Management Act – RCW 70.105; State Hazardous Waste Cleanup – RCW 70.105D; Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,331,000	\$0	\$1,331,000	8.0	\$1,670,000	\$0	\$1,670,000	8.0

Expected Results:

RESULT: Assurance that facilities treating, storing or disposing of hazardous wastes are constructed and operating properly to prevent soil, water, or air contamination.

- Issue protective permits for hazardous waste management facilities.
- Process permit modifications for facilities that want to change or expand operations for treating, storing, or disposing of hazardous wastes.
- Increase by 8 percent annually the goal toward complete cleanup or remediation at 27 high priority facilities.
- Improve compliance at treatment, storage and disposal facilities.
- Prevent future abandoned facilities requiring cleanup by proposing statutory and regulatory improvements for Washington's waste management system.
- Address proper financial assurance requirements at used oil processors and recyclers to ensure taxpayers don't have to pick up the tab when these facilities are abandoned.

Prevent Point Source Water Pollution

The agency protects Washington's water by regulating point source discharges of pollutants to surface and ground waters. This is done with a wastewater permit program for sewage treatment plants and an industrial discharge program for other industries. A permit is a rigorous set of limits, monitoring requirements, or management practices, usually specific to a discharge, which is designed to ensure that a facility can meet treatment standards and water quality limits. The permit is followed by regular inspections and site visits. Technical assistance and follow-up on permit violations are also provided through various means. (Authorizing Laws - Federal Clean Water Act, State Water Pollution Control Act, State Reclaimed Water Use Act, State Model Toxics Control Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$8,071,000	\$805,000	\$7,266,000	89.7	\$8,319,000	\$796,000	\$7,523,000	90.3

Expected Results:

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by Agency

Appropriation Period: 2003-05 Activity Version: 2004 Sup w/ Alloc & Activities

Agency: 461 - Department of Ecology

RESULT: Surface and groundwater resources meet federal and state water quality standards for the protection of human health and the environment (supply/use, public health, aquatic life, recreation, habitat, and commerce).

- Reduce the amount and toxicity of water pollution by administering the permit program for 2,300 permit holders.
- Issue or renew 85 National Pollution Discharge Elimination System wastewater discharge permits per year.
- Reduce the backlog of permit requests and provide responses to new permit applicants within 60 days of receiving an application.
- Develop eight general permits for 1,400 dischargers.
- Conduct 700 site visits per year.
- Provide certification for 2,000 wastewater plant operators.
- Assist communities in increasing the production and use of reclaimed wastewater.
- Reduce the number of repeat violators (five or more violations per year).
- Administer the \$25 million Permit Fee Account.

Prevent Spills from Vessels and Oil Handling Facilities

Oil and chemical spills from vessels and oil handling facilities pose a significant environmental threat in Washington. To minimize this threat, the agency works with the regulated community to carry out four core activities.

Vessel Screening and Inspection and Oil Transfer Oversight: The agency reviews safety-related information (screening) on approximately 2,600 cargo and passenger vessels, and conducts about 1,000 on-board inspections per year to provide technical assistance and verify compliance with international, federal, and state requirements. The agency inspects bunkering (vessel refueling) operations and provides technical assistance to help reduce the frequency of spills during fuel transfers.

Oil Handling Facilities: There are 35 oil handling facilities in Washington under state regulation. Agency staff review and approve the facilities' oil spill prevention plans and operation manuals to ensure tanks and pipelines are designed and operated in a manner that will minimize the risk of oil spills.

Neah Bay Rescue Tug: Over the past five winters, a tug stationed at Neah Bay has provided an important additional margin of safety for vessel propulsion and steering failures in the western Strait of Juan De Fuca and off Washington's rugged outer coast. The rescue tug is capable of controlling a drifting fully loaded oil tanker or cargo ship in bad weather to prevent vessel casualties, major oil spills, and loss of life.

Incident Investigations: Agency staff investigate oil and hazardous material near-miss incidents and actual accidents to determine what can be done to prevent future problems. Investigations also help target inspections and risk management initiatives.

(Authorizing laws - RCW 90.56 and 88.46)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$3,386,000	\$0	\$3,386,000	19.0	\$3,664,000	\$0	\$3,664,000	20.0

Expected Results:

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by Agency

Appropriation Period: 2003-05 Activity Version: 2004 Sup w/ Alloc & Activities

Agency: 461 - Department of Ecology

RESULT: Oil and chemical spills from vessels and oil handling facilities are minimized and avoided through risk management, the Neah Bay Rescue Tugboat, and targeted inspections.

- Conduct 1,000 inspections focused on high risk commercial vessels.
 - Enroll 60 percent of all tank vessels in the voluntary Best Achievable Protection program to prevent oil spills.
 - Reduce the number of spills where 25 or more gallons of oil enter surface waters.
 - Reduce the total volume of oil entering surface waters.
 - Reduce the percentage of vessels having "incidents" that can lead to spills (for instance, power loss).
 - Assist vessels as needed with the Neah Bay Rescue Tug.
 - Increase prevention emphasis on "non-regulated" entities.
 - Initiate a study of the oil tanker escort system.
 - Eliminate intentional waste oil discharges from vessels.
-

Prevent Violations of Air Quality Standards

Federal law establishes healthy air standards for six air pollutants known as criteria pollutants. Violations of standards trigger costly regulatory actions against businesses and consumers, impose economic constraints, and create the potential for severe financial sanctions against the state if problem areas are not cleaned up in a timely manner. To ensure federal standards are met, the agency continuously measures air pollution levels and trends, develops and implements area specific clean-up plans, designs and implements strategies to prevent violations, and develops and implements action plans in natural events, such as wildfires and windblown dust.

The agency's goals are to have all dirty-air areas, known as nonattainment areas, classified as clean by the Environmental Protection Agency by the end of the biennium and to reduce ambient air pollutant concentrations to levels that ensure future violations of health-based National Ambient Air Quality Standards will not occur. (Authorizing Laws - Federal Clean Air Act RCW 70.94; Washington Clean Air Act RCW 70.120; Motor Vehicle Emissions Control Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$4,556,000	\$2,558,000	\$1,998,000	13.8	\$4,608,000	\$2,536,000	\$2,072,000	13.8

Expected Results:

RESULT: Air quality standards in Washington are met, public health problems associated with unsafe air are minimized, and federal sanctions are avoided.

- Measured air quality is good for 85 percent of all days and 99 percent of all measurements. Good air quality means ambient (outdoor) concentrations are less than one-half the national standards.
 - Achieve no violations of ambient air quality standards.
 - All areas of the state have attained clean air as classified and officially recognized by the Environmental Protection Agency.
 - Complete a statewide assessment and prioritization of areas for their likelihood of violating standards.
 - Design and implement strategies to address pending fine particle (particles that are small enough to lodge in the lungs when breathed) problems in eastern Washington.
-

Promote Compliance with Water Laws

Agency Activity Inventory

by Agency

Appropriation Period: 2003-05 Activity Version: 2004 Sup w/ Alloc & Activities

Agency: 461 - Department of Ecology

The agency helps ensure that water users comply with the state's water laws so that other legal water users are not impaired, water use remains sustainable over the long term, and the environment is protected for the benefit of people and nature. Activities include water metering and reporting 80 percent of water use in 16 fish critical basins, along with education, technical assistance and strategic enforcement in egregious cases. (Authorizing law - RCW 90.03.400)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Preserve and restore natural systems and the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$519,000	\$519,000	\$0	6.8	\$653,000	\$653,000	\$0	7.8

Expected Results:

RESULT: Increased awareness of, and compliance with, the state's water laws so that legal water users and applicants for water rights are not impaired, water use remains sustainable, and the environment is protected.

- Ensure water is metered and reported in 16 critical water basins.
- Provide compliance information, assistance and strategic enforcement action.
- Regulate water use on streams with flows set during periods of low flows.

Protect and Manage Shorelines in Partnership with Local Governments

The Shoreline Management Act establishes a cooperative program between local and state governments, in which local governments develop and administer local Shoreline Master Programs and Ecology provides support and oversight. The agency is involved in shoreline management in four primary ways: developing guidelines for local shoreline programs; providing technical assistance to local governments and applicants on shoreline planning and permitting activities; reviewing and approving amendments to local shoreline master programs; and reviewing shoreline permits to ensure resource protection and implementation of the Shoreline Management Act.

Ecology works with local governments on permit compliance by responding to public inquiries and complaints, making field visits, providing compliance-related technical assistance, and issuing notices of correction, orders, and penalties. Properly managed shorelines provide habitat for fish and wildlife, minimize flooding and property damage, and provide land use certainty to local landowners. (Authorizing law – Shoreline Management Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Preserve and restore natural systems and the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$4,934,000	\$2,963,000	\$1,971,000	42.9	\$5,365,000	\$3,373,000	\$1,992,000	42.9

Expected Results:

RESULT: Shorelines of the state are protected, restored and managed consistent with state and local laws.

- Adopt new shoreline guidelines rules by end of December 2003.
- Provide technical and financial assistance to local governments updating their shoreline master programs. This includes passing through state funds (\$2 million provided by the 2003 Legislature) and federal coastal zone management funds (\$400,000 per year) to communities.
- Respond to 100-200 requests for technical assistance every month from local governments, state agencies, tribes, and citizens on interpreting and administering the Shoreline Management Act.
- Process approximately 600-800 shoreline permits every year.

Agency Activity Inventory

by Agency

Appropriation Period: 2003-05 Activity Version: 2004 Sup w/ Alloc & Activities

Agency: 461 - Department of Ecology

Protect Water Quality by Reviewing and Conditioning Projects

The agency issues water quality certifications and Coastal Zone Management Act consistency determinations for water-related construction projects. Staff provide early review on projects whenever possible (e.g., through State Environmental Policy Act review and pre-application meetings) and provide project guidance and technical assistance through phone calls, emails, site visits, and workshops. Projects are approved, denied, or conditioned to protect water quality, sediment quality, and fish and shellfish habitat. This activity allows the state to actively participate in federal permitting activities to ensure state interests are adequately represented and considered. (Authorizing law – State Water Pollution Control Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Preserve and restore natural systems and the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$757,000	\$56,000	\$701,000	7.7	\$758,000	\$57,000	\$701,000	7.7

Expected Results:

RESULT: Ensure projects that will potentially affect water quality meet federal and state water quality standards to protect water quality, habitat and aquatic life.

- Review and take action on 600-800 federally permitted projects each year to ensure that appropriate environmental standards are met.
- Provide outreach and assistance to local governments, tribes, state and federal agencies, and other applicants resulting in more environmentally sound permit applications.
- Continue to improve the timeliness of 401 permit decisions.

Protect, Restore and Manage Wetlands

The agency has the lead responsibility in implementing the State Water Pollution Control Act which requires the protection of wetlands. It provides technical assistance to local governments, helping them implement requirements in the Shoreline Management Act and Growth Management Act. Staff also provides technical assistance to non-government entities on wetlands conservation and stewardship programs. The agency provides leadership on wetlands issues, coordinating statewide policy issues and developing new approaches for managing and restoring wetlands. Properly functioning wetlands protect water quality, reduce flooding, provide aquifer recharge for drinking water and other uses, and provide critical habitat for fish and wildlife. (Authorizing laws – Shoreline Management Act; Water Pollution Control Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Preserve and restore natural systems and the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,464,000	\$587,000	\$877,000	12.7	\$1,588,000	\$702,000	\$886,000	13.7

Expected Results:

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Appropriation Period: 2003-05 Activity Version: 2004 Sup w/ Alloc & Activities

Agency: 461 - Department of Ecology

RESULT: Wetlands are protected, restored and managed, and local governments and other parties are assisted in carrying out local wetland protection efforts.

- Assist three counties and two cities in the adoption of wetland regulations.
- Review and comment on four county and five city critical area regulations.
- Develop information and tools for local governments to improve local and state wetlands protection programs.
- Develop methods to assess wetlands functions, a rating system for wetlands, a model ordinance, a compliance tracking system, and a compendium of best available science for wetlands.
- Provide technical information and assistance to local governments and citizens on wetlands restoration and stewardship related to shoreline management and federal permitting activities.

Provide Technical and Financial Assistance for Local Watershed Planning

In 1998, the Watershed Planning Act established a framework for state, local, and tribal governments to collaboratively create watershed plans that address water needs, reduce water pollution, and protect fish habitat. As the first watershed plans are coming to completion, emphasis is shifting to implementation of the water management strategies contained in the plans. Ecology supports watershed planning and implementation by providing staff support, technical and financial assistance to local groups, and by adopting the county approved plans into rules. Ecology will also implement strategies for water resource management, as agreed to in the locally developed watershed plans. (Authorizing law – Watershed Planning Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Preserve and restore natural systems and the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$8,673,000	\$133,000	\$8,540,000	16.2	\$6,566,000	\$235,000	\$6,331,000	16.2

Expected Results:

RESULT: Local watershed plans are developed and implemented to effectively address local water use needs, water quality protection, and fish habitat.

- Coordinate and provide technical assistance to 45 of the state's 62 Water Resource Inventory Areas and represent the state's interests in the development of local watershed plans. The outcome of this effort will be locally developed plans that meet the needs of instream flows for fish and out-of-stream uses for agriculture, energy production, population, and economic growth.
- Administer an \$11.2 million biennial grant program to assist 20 local planning units in both development and implementation of their watershed plans.
- Establish new instream flow rules to protect salmonids.

Provide Technical and Financial Assistance to Local Governments to Reduce Flood Hazards

The agency administers the Flood Control Assistance Account Program, providing grants and technical assistance to local governments for flood damage reduction projects and comprehensive flood hazard management planning. Staff review and approve local Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plans and inspect construction of flood damage reduction projects. Ecology is also the state's coordinating agency for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and receives an annual Community Assistance Program grant to provide technical assistance and support to 286 communities enrolled in the NFIP. In this role, staff make regularly scheduled technical assistance visits to communities, assess local regulatory programs for compliance with state and federal requirements, and provide workshops and other outreach on flood hazard recognition and reduction. Proper flood control planning and projects both protect private and public property, as well as natural resources and fish and wildlife habitat. (Authorizing laws – Floodplain Management Act and RCW 86.26)

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by Agency

Appropriation Period: 2003-05 Activity Version: 2004 Sup w/ Alloc & Activities

Agency: 461 - Department of Ecology

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,026,000	\$0	\$1,026,000	5.4	\$1,139,000	\$0	\$1,139,000	5.4

Expected Results:

RESULT: Flood damage to properties and the environment is minimized through development and implementation of local comprehensive flood hazard management plans and related flood control projects.

- Award over \$954,000 in Flood Control Assistance Account Program grants this biennium that result in plans and projects that reduce flood hazards and minimize environmental degradation.
- Meet the requirements of the NFIP by providing 86 community assistance visits, 64 community assistance contacts, and up to 48 floodplain management ordinance reviews each year.
- Meet with local officials, provide training, and review permitting records in an effort to reduce development in floodplains.
- Focus on assisting 12 communities to adopt more restrictive floodplain management ordinances during the 2003-05 Biennium.
- Improve floodplain management coordination by administering the Floodplain Management Task Force (authorized in Substitute House Bill 3110), developing statewide flood mapping standards, and coordinating federal and state funding for flood control projects.
- Work in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to produce better floodplain maps for local governments to use in regulating development.

Provide Technical Assistance on State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Review

SEPA was adopted in 1971 to ensure that state and local decision makers consider the environmental impacts of their actions. The SEPA law provides an opportunity for local citizen involvement in the environmental review process and provides developers an opportunity to identify mitigation opportunities that facilitate overall project approval and minimize development costs. Ecology provides training and assistance to local governments and the public and manages the SEPA register. (Authorizing law – State Environmental Policy Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Obtain data on which to make better decisions

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$245,000	\$174,000	\$71,000	2.6	\$248,000	\$176,000	\$72,000	2.6

Expected Results:

RESULT: The environmental review process in SEPA is used to effectively mitigate environmental impacts, minimize development costs, and provide public input into the process.

- Provide technical assistance and education on the purposes and use of SEPA to over 1,000 citizens and state/local agency staff per year.
- Provide information to the public on proposed projects by entering 7,000 - 8,000 SEPA documents into the on-line SEPA Register every year.
- Provide early input on projects by reviewing SEPA documents.

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Agency: 461 - Department of Ecology

Provide Technical Training, Education, and Research through Padilla Bay Estuarine Reserve

The Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve is one of 25 national reserves established to protect estuaries for research and education. The Padilla Bay Reserve in Skagit County conducts a broad array of public education programs, technical and professional training, coastal restoration, and scientific research and monitoring. The Reserve, managed in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), includes over 11,000 acres of tidelands and uplands, the Breazeale Interpretive Center, a research laboratory, residential quarters, trails, and support facilities. The Reserve also provides funding and technical support to local Marine Resource Committees as part of the Northwest Straits Initiative and administers the Northwest Straits Marine Commission as established by Senator Murray in 1998. (Authorizing law – Coastal Zone Management Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Obtain data on which to make better decisions

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,972,000	\$627,000	\$1,345,000	12.9	\$1,974,000	\$629,000	\$1,345,000	12.9

Expected Results:

RESULT: The Padilla Bay Reserve is managed and maintained in a cost-efficient and effective way to provide public education, training, and scientific research and monitoring.

- Provide education and training programs to over 13,000 students, teachers, adults, and coastal professionals each year.
- Improve our understanding of estuarine ecosystems and provide information that supports coastal decision-making.
- Develop local, bottoms-up solutions to marine resource problems.
- Undergo an independent evaluation of the Northwest Straits Initiative in 2004, chaired by William Ruckelshaus. Results will dictate future Initiative support and direction.
- Provide technical and professional educational workshops and seminars to enhance the ability of coastal managers at the local government level, including ten training workshops in Fiscal Year 04.
- In late 2003, the Reserve will begin a major construction project (\$3.2 Million), partnering with the NOAA to expand educational and training spaces and new research laboratory capabilities.

Provide Water Quality Financial Assistance

The agency provides grants, low-interest loans, and technical assistance to local governments, state agencies, and tribes to enable them to build, upgrade, repair, or replace facilities to improve and protect water quality. This includes meeting the state's obligation to manage the Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund in perpetuity. The agency also funds nonpoint-source control projects, such as watershed planning, stormwater management, freshwater aquatic weed management, education, and agricultural best management practices. Grants are targeted to nonpoint-source problems and communities where needed wastewater facilities projects would cause ratepayers a financial hardship. Local governments use loans for both point and nonpoint-source water pollution prevention and correction projects. The agency coordinates grant and loan assistance with other state and federal funding agencies. (Authorizing Laws - Federal Clean Water Act, State Water Pollution Control Act, State Water Pollution Control Facilities Financing Act, State Freshwater Aquatic Weeds Account, State Water Pollution Control Facilities - Federal Capitalization Grants)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Preserve and restore natural systems and the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$6,559,000	\$0	\$6,559,000	25.2	\$5,362,000	\$0	\$5,362,000	25.2

Expected Results:

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RESULT: Responsible management of public funds dedicated to improve water quality for the protection of public health and the environment.

- Improve water quality by dispersing \$115 million in water quality grants and loans per year to local communities.
- Award 120 new grants and loans per year for projects that demonstrate clear benefits for the environment.
- Administer 500 existing grants and loans per year.
- Support local governments by developing an alternative contracting rule to accommodate design-build wastewater treatment projects.
- Capture and illustrate environmental benefits through data generated from grants and loans.
- Meet grant and loan timing expectations of recipients.

Provide Water Resources Data and Information

The collection, management, and sharing of data and information is critical to modern water management. It is essential to local watershed groups, conservancy boards, businesses, local governments, non-profit groups, the Legislature, other agencies and the media. It supports daily agency operations including making water allocation decisions; setting and achieving stream flows; identifying the location and characteristics of wells, dams, and water diversions; supporting compliance actions; metering; tracking progress; communicating with constituents; and serving other water resource functions. (Authorizing law - RCW 90.54.030)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Obtain data on which to make better decisions

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,754,000	\$767,000	\$987,000	17.8	\$1,804,000	\$1,010,000	\$794,000	18.0

Expected Results:

RESULT: Greater agreement and more informed water resources decisions based on increasingly timely and accurate data and improved public access to information.

- Develop and maintain data and information systems for use by increasing numbers of external users (watershed groups, conservancy boards, businesses, etc.).
- Improved collection, preservation and availability of data and information for water allocation, dam safety, well construction, instream flows and communication.

Reduce Air Pollution from Industrial and Commercial Sources

The agency issues permits to new and existing industrial and commercial facilities that emit significant levels of air pollution. Permit programs are mandated either by federal or state clean air law and are designed by law to be self supporting through fees. The agency provides technical assistance to businesses, permit application and processing guidance, interpretation of rules, pre-application assistance, and permit review. Permits are conditioned and approved to ensure all federal and state laws are met, and that air quality, the environment and public health are protected. The agency develops and modifies industrial source regulations to incorporate federal and state law changes, simplify and streamline permit requirements, and ensure public health protection. The agency conducts compliance inspections, resolves complaints, and develops technical and policy direction on emerging industrial permit issues. (Authorizing Laws - Federal Clean Air Act RCW 70.94; Washington Clean Air Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Preserve and restore natural systems and the environment

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FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,111,000	\$0	\$1,111,000	15.0	\$1,125,000	\$0	\$1,125,000	15.0

Expected Results:

RESULT: Air pollution from industrial and commercial sources are managed to protect public health and minimize costs and regulatory burdens.

- Reduce or prevent at least 10,000 tons of air emissions per year through permit conditions.
- Ensure 100 percent of permits meet timeliness targets.
- Provide certainty to the regulated community on the need, content and timeframes for permits.
- Improve timeliness of permit processing.
- Retain delegation and local control of federal permit programs.

Reduce Health and Environmental Threats from Motor Vehicle Emissions

Cars, trucks, construction equipment, locomotives, and marine vessels are responsible for over 60 percent of Washington's air pollution. These emissions adversely affect public health, substantially increase health care costs, and increase cancer and mortality rates. Without significant emission reductions, the agency cannot ensure future attainment of federal air quality standards, avoid multi-million dollar control costs to businesses and citizens, nor reduce or prevent harmful health effects. To protect public health and the environment from motor vehicle pollution, the agency implements a vehicle emissions check program of nearly 2 million cars and trucks; promotes transportation alternatives and cleaner motor vehicles and fuels through voluntary, regulatory and incentive programs; and retrofits school buses with better emission controls. (Authorizing Laws - Federal Clean Air Act; Motor Vehicle Emissions Control Act; Washington Clean Air Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$10,017,000	\$4,672,000	\$5,345,000	28.0	\$7,529,000	\$2,172,000	\$5,357,000	28.0

Reduce Health and Environmental Threats from Smoke and Dust

Nagging regional smoke and dust pollution plagues many areas, primarily in central and eastern Washington, and affects public health and quality of life. To address these continuing problems, the agency issues conditioned permits for agricultural, land clearing, fire training, and other outdoor burning where required by law. It also produces daily burn forecasts; responds to and resolves complaints related to smoke and dust; provides technical assistance to manage and prevent fugitive dust and outdoor burning impacts; designs and delivers woodstove education programs; and through technical assistance, research and demonstration projects, fosters development and use of practical alternatives to burning and improved dust mitigation. The agency's goal is to achieve air quality levels in eastern and central Washington by 2010 that experts agree is sufficient to protect human health. (Authorizing Laws - RCW 70.94 Washington Clean Air Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

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FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,047,000	\$266,000	\$781,000	12.0	\$1,047,000	\$266,000	\$781,000	12.0

Expected Results:

RESULT: Public health threats from smoke and dust are managed and minimized.

- Reduce emissions from cereal grain stubble burning by at least 50 percent by June 2005 using a 1998 baseline.
- Continue to improve and streamline the outdoor burning permit and smoke management systems.
- Audit local burning permit programs to ensure effective and efficient operation.
- Foster development and use of practical alternatives and best management practices for burning and dust mitigation through research, technical assistance and demonstration projects.

Reduce Nonpoint Source Water Pollution

Nonpoint source pollution (polluted runoff) is the leading cause of water pollution and poses a major health and economic threat. Types of nonpoint pollution include fecal coliform bacteria, elevated water temperature, pesticides, sediments, and nutrients. Sources of pollution include agriculture, forestry, urban and rural runoff, recreation, hydro modification, and loss of aquatic ecosystems. The agency addresses these problems through raising awareness, encouraging community action, providing funding, and supporting local decision makers. The agency also coordinates with other stakeholders through the Washington State Nonpoint Workgroup, the Forest Practices Technical Assistance group, and the Agricultural Technical Assistance group. (Authorizing Laws - Federal Clean Water Act, State Water Pollution Control Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,635,000	\$801,000	\$834,000	18.2	\$1,604,000	\$796,000	\$808,000	18.2

Expected Results:

RESULT: Improved protection of surface and groundwater through community implementation of the State's Nonpoint Pollution Management Plan to address Washington's leading cause of water pollution.

- Surface and groundwater resources meet water quality standards.
- Assist the Department of Natural Resources and the forestry industry in managing 12 million acres of state and privately-owned forests.
- Assist the Department of Agriculture in developing and implementing a new program for managing animal feeding operations.
- Complete Endangered Species Act assurances for the Forest and Fish program.
- Manage and update Washington's Plan to Control Nonpoint Source Pollution and secure Coastal Zone Management Act approval for it.
- Ensure state and federal grants are available to, and used efficiently by, organizations in Washington.
- Work with local communities and other agencies to increase the number of stream miles restored or protected. (A specific example is to reduce pesticides by 50 percent in the Grayland ditches in Grays Harbor County.)

Reduce Persistent Bioaccumulative Toxins (PBTs) in the Environment

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Persistent, bioaccumulative toxins (PBTs) are a particular group of chemicals that can significantly affect the health of humans, fish and wildlife. The agency developed, and the Legislature funded in the 2001-03 Biennium, implementation of a long-term strategy designed to reduce PBTs in Washington's environment over the coming years. This strategy will coordinate agency-wide efforts, engage other key organizations and interest groups, and provide for public education and information on reducing PBTs in the environment. Although the Legislature did not provide funding in the 2003-05 Biennium for continued PBT strategy implementation, \$100,000 was provided to Ecology to implement House Bill 1002 (Mercury Reduction and Education Act - 2003). During the 2004 session, Ecology plans to request supplemental budget funding to resume implementation of the PBT Strategy. (Authorizing laws – Washington Clean Air Act; Water Pollution Control Act; Pollution Disclosure Act; Hazardous Waste Management Act; Pollution Prevention Planning Act; Solid Waste Management Act; Model Toxics Control Act; Worker and Community Right to Know Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$115,000	\$0	\$115,000	1.1	\$304,000	\$156,000	\$148,000	4.6

Expected Results:

RESULT: Public health and environmental impacts associated with PBTs are minimized, and strategies are developed and implemented to reduce and eliminate these harmful chemicals.

- Reduce mercury releases from dental offices to the environment through the successful implementation of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Washington State Dental Association.
- Conduct a survey assessing mercury amalgam recovery efforts by September 2004.
- Increase fluorescent lamp recycling rate in Washington to 30 percent by June 2004 and 40 percent by June 2005.

Reduce Risk from Toxic Air Pollutants

No ambient standards and few emission limits have been established for the hundreds of toxic chemicals (totaling millions of pounds) emitted into the air annually in Washington. Emerging ambient assessments and toxics risk models indicate that the level and extent of airborne toxics pose significant health and environmental risks, including cancer, other serious health effects, and death.

The agency has identified 11 high-risk toxic air pollutants that are prevalent in Washington. To significantly reduce potential risk to the public, the agency will complete a health assessment of agricultural burning smoke, complete a health effects analysis of diesel soot, collect and prepare annual air toxics emission inventories, operate air toxics monitoring sites, and limit toxic emissions through permit conditions for commercial facilities, combustion processes, and outdoor burning. (Authorizing Laws - Federal Clean Air Act RCW 70.94; Washington Clean Air Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,854,000	\$700,000	\$1,154,000	9.0	\$1,854,000	\$700,000	\$1,154,000	9.0

Expected Results:

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RESULT: The public health threat from toxic air pollutants is minimized.

- Less than 60 percent of facility reported toxics released to the environment (Community Right to Know, Toxics Release Inventory) are air emissions and total tons of air toxics decrease by 5 percent by July 2005.
- Achieve a 50 percent reduction in emissions of priority toxics by 2010.
- Reduce diesel soot emissions by 10 percent by 2004; 15 percent by 2005; and 50 percent by 2010.
- Equip 800 school buses with new emission controls by July 2004, and 2000 buses by July 2005.
- Improve emissions inventories and understanding of ambient concentrations and sources of priority toxics.
- Evaluate and initiate appropriate strategies to reduce emissions of priority toxics.

Reduce the Generation of Hazardous Waste Through Technical Assistance

The state Hazardous Waste Reduction Act calls for the reduction of hazardous substances/waste generation, and requires certain businesses to prepare plans for voluntary reduction. Staff provide assistance through innovative programs for source and waste generation reduction, including more than 250 technical assistance visits. In addition, the program focuses on improvements in industries that have the highest rate of waste generation and non-compliance to help them achieve energy savings, and water conservation, and reduce hazardous waste production. Reducing the initial generation of hazardous waste minimizes disposal costs, reduces the need for clean-up, minimizes public exposure, and saves money.

(Authorizing laws - State Solid Waste Act (Waste Reduction & Recycling) – RCW 70.95C; Hazardous Waste Fees – RCW 70.95E; Hazardous Waste Fee Regulations – WAC 173-305; Pollution Prevention Plans – WAC 173-307)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$2,174,000	\$0	\$2,174,000	26.0	\$2,207,000	\$0	\$2,207,000	26.0

Expected Results:

RESULT: The amount of hazardous waste generated is reduced. This results in savings on clean-up and disposal costs for businesses, minimizes public exposure, and avoids future cleanups.

- Reduce statewide generation of hazardous waste by 2 percent annually (about 5 million pounds a year).
- Achieve quantifiable savings in energy (dollars); process water conservation (gallons); and reduce hazardous waste (pounds) at several businesses that volunteer for assistance (Toxics Reduction Engineer Efficiency or TREE).
- Focus on improvements in sectors that have the highest rate of contamination and non-compliance (electroplaters, printed circuit boards, and aerospace parts manufacturers).
- Create a partnership with dentists to reduce mercury.
- Achieve progress on purchasing environmentally preferable products and services at state and local government agencies (sustainability).
- Conduct 250 pollution prevention technical assistance visits annually.
- Develop a long-range strategic State Hazardous Waste Management Plan to reduce or eliminate hazardous substances (Beyond Waste).
- Support the highly popular annual Governor's Award for pollution prevention and sustainability practices.

Regulate Well Construction

The agency protects consumers, well drillers, and the environment by licensing and regulating well drillers, investigating complaints, approving variances from construction standards, and providing continuing education to well drillers. The work is accomplished in partnership with delegated counties. It delivers technical assistance to homeowners, well drillers, tribes, and local governments. (Authorizing law - RCW 18.104)

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Statewide Result Area: Improve the health of Washington citizens

Category: Provide consumer protection

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$649,000	\$0	\$649,000	7.2	\$644,000	\$0	\$644,000	7.3

Expected Results:

RESULT: Improve the protection of consumers, well drillers, and the environment, including reducing the risk of aquifer contamination and cleanup costs.

- License and provide training to well drillers.
- Regulate the drilling of wells.

Respond To and Clean Up Oil and Hazardous Material Spills

The agency is responsible for responding to and overseeing the clean-up of oil spills, hazardous material incidents, and methamphetamine drug labs. These activities include:

24-Hour Statewide Response Capability: The agency provides round-the-clock response from four regional offices to oil spills and hazardous material incidents that pose a risk to public health and the environment. The agency ensures that damage from the spill is contained within the smallest area possible and cleaned up as quickly as possible with minimum damage to public health, natural resources and private property.

Methamphetamine Drug Lab Cleanup: Agency spill responders work with local, state, and federal law enforcement to dispose of chemicals from the sites of illicit methamphetamine drug manufacturing labs and lab dumps.

Compliance and Enforcement: The agency may take enforcement and compliance actions for violations related to oil and hazardous material spills. These actions include imposing fines or requiring changes in operating practices to prevent future spills. (Authorizing laws – RCW 90.56, 90.48, 70.105, and 70.105D)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$6,994,000	\$0	\$6,994,000	33.4	\$6,983,000	\$0	\$6,983,000	33.4

Expected Results:

RESULT: Oil spills, chemical spills and methamphetamine labs are rapidly responded to and cleaned up in a timely manner to protect public health, natural resources and property.

- Maintain 24 hour, 7 days per week spill response capability throughout the state.
- Increase the response time to spills within 48 hours from 90 percent to 95 percent.
- Manage agency response to 4,000 annual spill reports.
- Complete 1,500 annual drug lab removals.
- Increase the drug lab chemicals that are batched by local government for Ecology to properly handle and dispose of from 30 percent to 35 percent.
- Respond to all oil spills from vessels and facilities.
- Support environmental crime investigations.

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Restore Environmental Damage Caused by Oil Spills

When an oil spill causes significant damage to publicly owned natural resources, the agency coordinates with other organizations to complete an assessment of the monetary value of the damages. Once the assessment is complete, the agency seeks fair compensation from the responsible party(s). After the money is collected, the agency works with other organizations to ensure it is used for projects to restore the injured natural resources. (Authorizing laws – RCW 90.56 and 90.48)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,098,000	\$0	\$1,098,000	2.3	\$1,099,000	\$0	\$1,099,000	2.3

Expected Results:

RESULT: The environmental impacts from oil spills to publicly owned natural resources are partially mitigated (compensated for) using damage assessment funding.

- Issue a Natural Resource Damage Assessment on 100 percent of oil spills where 25 or more gallons reach surface waters.
- Restore or protect priority wildlife habitat using natural resource damage funds.
- Develop a fresh water oil spill damage compensation table.

Restore Watersheds by Supporting Community-Based Projects with the Washington Conservation Corps

The Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) was established in 1983 to conserve, rehabilitate and enhance the state's natural and environmental resources, while providing educational opportunities and meaningful work experiences for young adults (ages 18-25). The WCC creates partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies, private entities, and non-profit groups to complete a variety of conservation-related projects. These include stream and riparian restoration, wetlands restoration and enhancement, soil stabilization, and other forest restoration activities, fencing, and trail work. The WCC also provides emergency response and hazard mitigation services to local communities. (Authorizing law – Washington Conservation Corps – RCW 43.220)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Preserve and restore natural systems and the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,803,000	\$0	\$1,803,000	26.0	\$1,855,000	\$0	\$1,855,000	26.0

Expected Results:

RESULT: Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) carries out conservation and emergency response related projects in support of local communities, and are provided valuable educational and work experiences.

- Support up to 20 WCC crews throughout the state (120 Corps members) restoring watersheds, enhancing streams and riparian corridors, building trails, and carrying out other water quality, salmon recovery, and emergency response projects.
- Crews will restore or enhance up to 25 miles of riparian habitat this biennium.
- Provide training, education, and career guidance for every crew member.

Services to Site Owners that Volunteer to Clean Up their Contaminated Sites

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The agency provides services to site owners or operators who initiate clean-up of their contaminated sites. Voluntary clean-ups can be conducted in a variety of ways: completely independent of the agency; independent with some agency assistance or review; or with agency oversight under a signed legal agreement (an agreed order or a consent decree). They may be done through consultations, prepayment agreements, prospective purchaser agreements, and brownfields redevelopment. The voluntary clean-up program minimizes the need for public funding used for such clean-up and promotes local economic development through new industries and other beneficial uses of cleaned properties. (Authorizing laws - Model Toxics Control Act – RCW 70.105D; Water Pollution Control Act – RCW 90.48; Puget Sound Water Quality Protection – RCW 90.71)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Manage damage to the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$2,007,000	\$0	\$2,007,000	23.0	\$2,007,000	\$0	\$2,007,000	23.0

Expected Results:

RESULT: Contaminated sites are voluntarily cleaned up by site owners and prospective buyers using private funding.

- Increase the number of sites voluntarily cleaned up by 3 percent annually.
- Increase the number of sites with cleanup actions in progress.
- Decrease the number of sites that are awaiting cleanup.
- Increase the number of determinations made on final cleanup reports submitted by parties who voluntarily cleaned up sites.

Streamline Environmental Permit Review for Major Transportation Projects

To address traffic congestion and allow businesses to efficiently transport products in Washington, the Legislature approved significant spending on transportation projects. The agency is entering into agreements with Department of Transportation (DOT) to properly fund and coordinate permit review of these important projects. Through these agreements, Ecology will be permitting and mitigating transportation projects through:

- multi-agency transportation permitting teams;
- multi-agency programmatic approvals;
- watershed-based mitigation alternatives; and
- assignment of dedicated organizational infrastructure at Ecology.

This activity is fully funded by several interagency agreements with DOT. In addition to the nine FTE's noted, these agreements also provide three additional staff positions. (Authorizing laws – Permit Efficiency and Accountability Act)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Preserve and restore natural systems and the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$0	\$0	\$0	9.0	\$0	\$0	\$0	9.0

Expected Results:

RESULT: State transportation project reviews are adequately funded, and permits are processed in an expedited manner to meet DOT timelines, while also meeting applicable environmental laws.

- Reduce to zero the number of transportation projects where start dates ("ad dates") slip due to environmental permitting delays caused by Ecology.
- Establish multi-agency transportation permitting teams in two regional offices.

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Support Local Watershed Management of Water Resources

This activity involves work with other agencies, local watershed planning groups, and tribes to address water quantity issues under the Watershed Management Act. It includes providing technical support and studies for local watershed planning groups to develop and adopt local plans that can serve as the basis for sound water resources management. (Authorizing law - RCW 90.82)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Preserve and restore natural systems and the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$807,000	\$625,000	\$182,000	9.6	\$942,000	\$820,000	\$122,000	9.6

Expected Results:

RESULT: Local watershed management plans are adopted and implementation has begun with sufficient information and agreement to support sound water resources use and actions.

- Provide technical assistance and support to 42 local watershed planning groups.
- Provide technical support to the regional initiatives for the Central Puget Sound, Columbia River and Yakima River.

Support Voluntary Cost-Reimbursement Agreements for Environmental Permitting

The State Cost-Reimbursement Program provides an optional, applicant-initiated process whereby applicants can enter into individual agreements with Ecology to cover the costs of assigning dedicated personnel (either direct Ecology personnel or contracted personnel) to specific project proposals. The program is an effective tool for delivering regulatory and permitting decisions in a timely manner when Ecology does not have the capacity to meet all project review needs. Permit applicants that use the program are provided expedited review, and there is no delay of other non-cost reimbursement projects.

In addition to the resources noted in this write up, this activity is also funded by an interagency agreement with the Office of Financial Management (4 FTE and \$820,000), and by funds from Ecology's Administration Program (2 FTE and \$160,000). (Authorizing laws – RCW 90.03.265 and 43.21A.690)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Preserve and restore natural systems and the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$713,000	\$0	\$713,000	6.0	\$713,000	\$0	\$713,000	6.0

Expected Results:

RESULT: Permit applicants that enter into voluntary cost-reimbursement agreements receive expedited and timely permit decisions consistent with all regulatory requirements.

- Increase the number of additional projects managed through cost-reimbursement and interagency reimbursement agreements to ten.

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Agency: 461 - Department of Ecology

Support Water Use Efficiency

The agency provides agricultural, commercial/industrial and non-profit water users with services that deliver water savings. These include information, planning, and technical, engineering and financial assistance. Support is also provided for water reuse projects and to the Department of Health in municipal water conservation. (Authorizing law - RCW 90.54.020 (7))

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Category: Preserve and restore natural systems and the environment

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$2,196,000	\$164,000	\$2,032,000	6.1	\$2,199,000	\$183,000	\$2,016,000	6.3

Expected Results:

RESULT: Improved water savings, lower water and energy costs, more competitive enterprises, less pressure on water supplies and waste treatment facilities and improved environmental protection.

- Increase the volume of water saved as a result of water use efficiency.
 - Provide technical assistance to agricultural, commercial, industrial and non-profit water users.
 - Support Department of Health water conservation and reclaimed water efforts.
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